SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, I will take the valuable suggestion of the hon. Member into account and I will examine it. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has said that this drug is imported at this price and others are importing it overinvoicing it (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Sir, I am complaining against three multinational companies who are importing drugs. The name of the drugs are Cefatoxin and Tolnafate which the Indian companies give at Rs. 4,000. The multinational companies import it at Rs. 19,800. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the name of the drug?

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: The names of the drugs are Cefatoxin and Tolnafate.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, Cefatoxin drug is manufactured by a number of manufacturers. If the hon. Member is kind enough to give me the name of the manufacturer. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Sir, I am giving him the name of the manufacturers. (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Tolnafate is produced indigenously. It is sold at Rs. 4,000 by the indegenous companies whereas multinational companies import it at a cost of Rs. 19,800. I want to know specifically what the Government is doing to curb this anti-national activity by the multinational companies.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: I will call for the report. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope you have noted the hon. Member's question and you will take action and inform her accordingly.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : स्पेसेफिक सवाल का स्पेसेफ़िक जवाब दीजिए। (**व्यवधान**

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : सभापति महोदय मैं मंत्री महोदय को नाम दे दुं कम्पनियों के (**व्यवधान**)

श्री सभापति : आप तशरीफ रखिय।

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : यह हमेश पलायनवादी जवाब दे रहे हैं (**व्यवधान**

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: there are some companies in India whi import cosmetic concentrate from the foreign principals as drug for medicin purpose and the same is being misuse for cosmetic purpose, thus evading cu toms and Central excise duty. May know from the hon. Minister as to ho many such cases have come to his notic and what safeguards will be taken b the Minister to see that this facilit is not misused in future?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: I reall do not remember this incident, Sir. will definitely check up with the depar ment and write to him.

Fishing vessels lying idle in Visakhapatnan

*304. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of deep-sea fishing vessels lying idle or sick in Visakhapatnam as on date;

(b) the number of fishing units based in Visakhapatnam which have applied for rehabilitation and other facilities for their revival;

(c) whether it is a fact that some vessels are lying idle for the last two fishing seasons;

(d) what is the approximate loss of foreign exchange due to such idling of vessels; and

(e) whether it is a factt that his Ministry's recommendations in this regard have not been accepted by SCICI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (e) Ten deep-set fishin gvessels are lying idle in Visakhapatnam at present.

(b) So far 27 fishing, Companies whose operations are based at Visakhapatnam have submitted complete proposals for rehabilitation.

(c) Yes, Sir. The vessels mentioned in (a) above have been lying idle during the last two fishing seasons.

(d) The vessels were operating on a low key basis due to various management related problems and all these vessels had reported cash losses indicating absence of both economic and financial viability of operations in the hand of the companies. Loss of foreign exchange due to idling of vessels cannot, therefore, be separately identified.

(e) No, Sir.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Sir, the biggest fishing harbour is located in Visakhapatnam. Nearly 180 deep-sea fishing vessels are operating from this harbour. Sir, fishing is an export-intensive industry and it earns about nearly Rs. 900 crores every year. A substantial part of this foreign exchange earnings is contributed by the deep-sea fishing. The Minister has said and it is on record that the intention of the Ministry is to increase the export earnings from Rs. 900 crores to Rs. 5,000 crores within the 8th Five year Plan. During the last two or three years, the deep-sea fishing industry has been in doldrums and it has almost become sick. Nearly 100 companies are now sick, Sir. The reasons for the sickness are: (i) frequent increase in the oil prices; (ii) during the last five years, there has been steep increase in the number of vessels operating from Vizag harbour,.. Number three, the fishing season which used to be eight months a year ten years ago has now come down to four months a year. Number four, the weather condition in the Bay of Bengal from 1989 cyclone onwards has become unusually rough and volatile and as such, the risk factor including the insurance premium that the industry has to pay has increased the overheads steeply as a result of which the industry has become sick and has approached the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for rehabilitation. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has offered a rehabilitation package. The package is so harsh that few companies have come forward to take advantage of this package. Why I am apprehensive about it is the Food Processing Ministry is preoccupied with more sophisticated items like awarding licences and inviting Coca Cola, Pepsi Cola... (*Interruption*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Come to your question. That is not the question. Pepsi Cola is not coming in these vessels... (*Interruptions*)..

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: That is the main preoccupation of the Food Processing Ministry. I would like to know whether the Ministry is thinking in terms of offering a revised rehabilitation programme to the deep-sea fishing industry. Part (b) of my question whether the Government will take immediate steps to provide working capital to make the idle vessels operational. These are the two clarifications which I would like to seek from the hon. Minister.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the question relates to Visakhapatnam which I have already replied to. Twenty seven companies have submitted proposals for the rehabilitation programme and out of 27,25 have already been cleared and the remaining two companies have to clarify certain queries. After that the SCICI case will be considered for the rehabilitation package. Keeping all these points in view the Minister has mentioned that certain steps will be taken to solve that problem. All these things are considered by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries and on the basis of the proposals made by the companies we have recommended to SCICI and the SCICI has considered in favour of the sick industries to be revitalised and to earn foreign exchange and to operate the industry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have been informed by the Information and Broadcasting Minister just now that there was a power failure in the OB Van from

11.15 A.M. *to* 11.35 A.M. So the Question Hour could not be recorded. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Sir, the Question Hour should be retaken.

DR. BAPU KALDATE: Sir, please retake it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, the Question Hour should be replaced by...

(Interruptions)

MR.CHAIRMAN: No, no; you are not a loser It is only those who are putting questions who are the losers.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Sir, the Question Hour should be replaced by the Zero Hour.

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: Sir, the joy of the Treasury Benches at your annoucement was very noticeable.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Sir, the Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation is the nodal agency for the rehabilitation scheme and in my view the SCICI is the main reason for the sickness of the deep-sea fishing industry. In spite of the instructions by the Finance Ministry, the SCICI is not coming forward to have a dialogue with the shipping industry. It is not coming forward to alleviate the condition of the shipping industry. My specific question is: Is it not a fact that the Finance Ministry cleared 32 cases for funding rehabilitation 3 months ago and SCICI is sitting over it without clearing them? The (b) part of my question is: Is it not a fact that the industry's request for a 2-year moratorium has been turned down by the SCICI? The industry wanted a 2-year moratorium for payment of outstanding loans. This the SCICI turned down and they insisted upon the industry to pay all the outstanding loans. Then, where is the question of rehabilitation?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, the authorised agency for financing the deep see fishing is the Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited (SCICI). At present SCICI does not have a separate division to deal with financing of deep-sea fishing vessels exclusively. We will direct the Manager to look into the problems faced by the deep-sea fishing vessels and to give assistance to the manufacturers of ships and vessels. No separate fund is earmarked for deep-see fishing. It is being proposed in the Eighth Plan to earmark a separte fund for deep-sea fishing. The problems relating to deep-sea fishing will be sorted out immediately and in such a way...*(Interruptions)*....

MR. CHAIRMAN: In the Eighth Plan?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Yes

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Sir, is it not a fact that the SCICI is not following the instructions given by his Ministry as well as the Finance Ministry? That is what I wanted to know.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: I have already replied to the (b) part of your question. They have already considered 25 out of 27 and 2 are under consideration.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, the Food Processing Minister has already given an assurance that he is going to solve the problems of the fishing industry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you satisfied with that?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: No, I am not satisfied. These recommendations were made to the Food Processing Ministry almost two-and-a-half years ago. I would like to know, if we are waiting for the Eighth Plan, what immediate rehabilitation programme we have to rehabilitate these vessels because they are going down the drain.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, a rehabilitation scheme was announced on 15th April, 1991, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and SCICI. All these problems are there. The main problems which they have identified and which we have received are that (1) there is no viable fishing operation; (2) there is heavy interest rate by financial institutions and (3) there is private borrowing at a high rate of interest. All these problems are there. These are the main problem. All these industries are sometimes facing the problem of no operation or lying idle in the sea. All these problems have been identified by them and we have recommended them to the SCICI and the SCICI is considering them favourably. They were not rejected. I suppose out 27, 25 are approved. We are seriously considering them so that the deep-sea fishing industry could grow.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: He has not answered my question. My question is: What is the immediate application? Are they going to waive loans? Are they going subsidise the diesel and petrol prices? Are they going to give any kind of protection? Are they going to give...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Her question is limited to what you are going to do immediately before the Eighth Five Year Plan. Are you going to do anything before the Eighth Five Year Plan?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: What I mentioned is that in the Eighth Five Year Plan we have a separate allocation for funding the deep-sea fishing. All these problems are submitted to the SCICL They provide subsidy to the vessel operators for the purpose of foreign exchange and another scheme was introduced only in April 1991. All these problems have been considered and the immediate request is for refund...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

672 RS—2.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Failure of film festival in Germany

*305: SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the report which appeared in Maharashtra Times Bombay dated 29th September, 1991 in connection with the failure of the film festival held in Germany, and if so, the details in this regard; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the bureaucracy have had an upper hand over professionals in the selection and management of the film festival?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir. A statement is laid on the table of the House for details. *(See below)*.

(b) No, Sir.

Statement

The Government has seen an article in the Maharashtra Times of 20th September, 1991 regarding film segment of Festival of India in Germany. The article perceives some shortcomings in the arrangements for the film festival which opened in Berlin on 16th September, 1991. The contents of this article do not reperesnt a true picture. While it cannot be denied that the inaugural function did not attain the desired levels of glamour due to last minute refusll of some eminent film personalities to participate in the festival for personal reasons, it picked up momentum as it progressed.

Also there can be no question of disappointment among the viewers due to arrival of some prints after the inaugural function, sinle the festival is of substantial duration spreading over nearly 6 months and travelling to different cities in Germany, which would provide ample opportunity to the audiences in